

A meeting of the Civic Center Priority Task Force (CCPTF) was held on Wednesday, September 24, 2003 at 7:30 p.m., at City Hall in the Council Board Room. Brian Wattles called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL: all present

PRESENT:

Mary Ann Bernardi (Troy Citizens United)
Leonard Bertin (Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities)
Ann Partlan (Historic District Commission)
Ryan Deel (Traffic Committee)
Catherine Herzog (Troy Youth Council)
Michelle Hodges (Troy Shareholders) (Vice-chair CCPTF)
Jeff Biegler, Superintendent of Parks

Tom Krent (Parks and Recreation Advisory Board)
Mark Maxwell (Board of Zoning Appeals)
David Ogg (Advisory Committee for Senior Citizens)
Carol Price (Downtown Development Authority)
Walter Storrs (Planning Commission)
Brian Walltes (Historical Commission) (Chair CCPTF)

1. MINUTES

Resolution #CCPTF-2003-09-002

Moved by Bertin

Seconded by Price

RESOLVED, that the minutes of September 10, 2003 meeting be approved as amended with the change on page 2 of the acreage of the available land at the **Civic Center Site from 17 acres to 21.18 acres**, and with correction on page 3 of the sentence “**Look at connective walkways as a jogging path, too: expand along outer rim road**” to include “**with covered bridges over creek with seating areas on bridges.**”

Yes: All

No: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

2. Discuss changes to public comment procedure so high school students have opportunity to speak earlier in the meeting.

Note: These are not verbatim minutes.

BW proposed that unless there were any objections from other members, future meetings would have a public comment section at the beginning of the meeting as well as at the end to accommodate those students that may be in the audience and would like to express a comment. There were no objections from other CCPTF members.

3. Discuss structure for collating the suggestions from the group.

CP – Vote for top 5 ideas. List ideas for elements on the board and have members place sticky note next to their desired idea. Go around the table for ideas, condensing down to 3-5 ideas. Also identifying those elements we do not want to see on the site.

TK – A relocated Troy Daze festival will not fit on the site.

DO – Agree with TK, this past Troy Daze had filled all of the parking at Boulan Park as well as the parking at Boulan Middle School, Bemis Elementary, and were also along Northfield parkway north of the schools.

4. Round the table presentation of ideas from the group.

CP – Amphitheater, water elements, walkways, gardens w/art, restaurant/food vendor

Indicated the DDA would be concerned with generating revenue at the site. Against the idea of large picnic areas with grills.

WS – Walkways, jogging path, remove civic center drive, new library w/parking deck, summer fountain/winter ice rink, informal amphitheater, flood plain and on-site water detention incorporated in water feature that runs throughout the site, signature lighted fountain/artwork by I-75 to “announce” Troy.

TK – Whatever we come up with in our ultimate design must draw people to the site. We should ask the question “ Why would I want to be there?” Our design should include elements that would answer that question by providing reasons to spend time at the site.

Elements should include: benches, tables, tables with game boards imbedded in the tabletop surface for checkers or chess, a protected pavilion for socialization of groups of 10-20 people, restrooms, water fountain/waterfall/plaza perhaps tying into the creek, amphitheater.

Would like to see the Reflective Head moved to the SE corner of the intersection of Town Center and Civic Center Drives and locating an amphitheater in the present Head location. The amphitheater, with permanent band shell and stage would be a perfect place for small events, concerts, award programs, etc.

LB – Covered bridge over creeks with seating for 6-8, vegetative maze at the base of the Head, outdoor skating rink in location of existing pond south of the Aquatic Center with an area in the pond for a water feature, restrooms, amphitheater, pathways.

MM – Active elements should attract and serve diverse community, Passive elements should complement active elements. Current needs should be addressed. Design should provide a vision for the future. Elements should include: library expansion, optimize available land with underground parking and reduction of surface parking lots, Walkways, open water element with winter ice skating area, gathering spaces/amphitheater/picnic areas for music, community events.

MH – We need to reinforce our design with creative programming, define focal points, install cultural elements, amphitheater, winter elements with a skating rink, need to perform an analysis of the layout of roads and parking area, provide availability of technology/internet connections for people to be able to come to site and plug in laptop. Also need elements to bring families back to the site. Explore finding a partner (Disney as example) to develop a marketing plan to bring people to the site.

CH – Brought this up to the Teen Youth Council who expressed a concern that there are few places currently in Troy for them to go. They would like to see: winter skating rink/summer fountain with a warming area or fireplace and café for hot chocolate or coffee, amphitheater, gathering areas/places to hang out and study.

JB – Walkways, amphitheater, ice rink, gathering places with water element/fountain, restrooms, landscaping/gardens.

DO – Ice rink utilizing Aquatic Center for concession and warming area, gathering spaces/picnic areas, gazebos, restrooms, move Head to SE corner of intersection and place amphitheater in SW corner of intersection of Town Center and Civic Center Drives, fountain plaza in the open area W of the Community Center with walkways and two access points across creek, remove some trees and open up the area on the corner of Livernois and Town Center Drive, not in favor of restaurants, not in favor of underground parking, prefer parking decks.

MAB – English Gardens with flowers and gas light style lighting for night use, circular benches, fountains statuary, gazebo, benches, brick walkways. Also Skating rink at the pond area with a place to purchase hot chocolate, opposed to restaurant – prefer food vendors, pavilion with fire pit, restrooms and emergency phone, open space with area for basketball/volleyball/tennis.

AP - Pathways, gardens with heritage plantings, plaza with fountain, work out a deal with area restaurants to set up booths offering box lunches, use Troy bus to take people for different locations on Big Beaver to Civic Center for a box lunch, amphitheater for movies/kid's programs/ethnic fair.

RD – Walkways, address security/safety concerns, lighting, restrooms in practical locations, fountain/ice rink combination, open/green space utilizing an “adopt a landscape” program to help maintain the gardens with volunteer help, library expansion.

Wireless access is currently available and could be incorporated into this site eliminating the need to install hard-wired computer access stations somewhere on the site. Also would like to see Civic Center drive stop at the library and encourages talking with John Abraham (City Traffic Engineer) regarding the impact closing the drive would have on traffic flow on the site.

BW – Picnic area in area east of the skate park with restroom and small concession stand, ice rink near pond south of Aquatic Center, Amphitheater in SW corner of Civic Center/Town Center – move Head to SE corner, trail/walkway/jogging path throughout the site.

DO – If the 11-acre sale does not go through, would propose a roadway through from Civic Center Drive near Library east to Livernois Road.

TK divided the erase board into twelve zones, each representing a desired element to be located on the Civic Center site. It was decided that pathways and restrooms were required elements on the site and were not listed as elements for the task force members to rate. The other elements and their decided priority are as follows:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Priority 1 – Winter Activities | 7 – Formal Plaza w/fountains |
| 2 – Amphitheater | 8 – Parking Structures |
| 3 – Gardens/Maze/Sculpture/Art | 9 – Access and Transportation |
| 4 – Benches, Tables, Small Gathering Areas | 10 – Sports Courts |
| 5 – Water feature(s) | 11 – Library Expansion |
| 6 – Reworking Road to Unify Campus | |

BW – After prioritizing the elements tonight, we should decide over the next few meeting how to present the information to Council to achieve the desired results we are looking for - which improvements can be made soon with available money and which improvements will be made over the longer term.

LB – Suggest presenting Council with a list of optimal features as well as a prioritized implementation order.

**5. Relocation of Reflective Head
Resolution #CCPTF-2003-09-003**

Moved by Ogg

Seconded by Bernardi

RESOLVED, that the Civic Center Priority Task Force request City Council approval for relocation of the Reflective Head from its present planned location at the Southwest corner of the intersection of Town Center Drive and Civic Center Drive to the Southeast corner of the intersection.

Yes: All

No: None

Absent: Michelle Hodges

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Reminder – Next Meeting; October 8, 2003 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall – 2nd Floor – Council Board Room

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 p.m.

Brian Wattles, Meeting Chair

Jeff Biegler, Superintendent of Parks